A PINDARIC POEM.

CONSISTING OF

VERSIFIED SELECTIONS,

FROM THE

REVELATION OF ST. JOHN.

BY HANNAH ROWE.

Bible - Revelation - Selections - [English]

O Earth! Earth! Earth!

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ERRATA.

Page 2, *line* 7, *eraſe* and—*Ibid*. *l*. 15, *for* great *read* high—*p*. 5, *l*. 5, *for* halleiujah's *read* hallelujahs—*p*. 6, *incloſe line* 14, 15, 16, *and* 17, *within inverted commas*—*p*. 8, *l*. 4, *read* And dancing viſions round me ſhone.—*ibid*. *l*. 14, *place a comma at* And,—*p*. 22, *l*. 4, *for* lightning *read* light'ning—*p*. 28, *l*. 3, *for* richeſt *read* deepeſt—*ibid*, *l*. 4, *for* the *ſev'n laſt*, *read* that the *ſev'n*—*p*. 29, *laſt line*, *place a full point at* torne—*p*. 38, *l*. 14, *for* reſounds, *read* reſound—*ibid*, *l*. 15, *for* bounds, *read* bound—*p*. 35, *l*. 12, *place a comma at* flew—*p*. 48, *l*. 6, *eraſe* it—*ibid*, *l*. 8, *eraſe* as, *and for* reconceiveable, *read* reconcileable.

THE

PREFACE.

I CANNOT perceive the propriety of Dr. Johnſon's obſervation in the *Life* of Cowley, that " by examining Pindar's ſyllables " we perceive them to be regular," applied to cenſure irregular verſe. Theſe words imply, that the ſyllables of what are modernly ſtyled Irregular Pindariques, are faultily lax in their arrangement; whereas that is and muſt be neceſſarily as ſtrictly regarded in theſe, as in any poetry whatever; otherwiſe there would be no verſe in any reſpect but the rhyme, which is the caſe of ſome negligent paſſages in Cowley: for this reaſon I have denominated my odes of the Pſalms *Regulated*. Be this as it may: in my mind, Irregular Odes have their peculiar excellence, eſpecially in elevated and eccentric ſubjects. Stated meaſure often cramps the beauty of a line, as alſo prevents the adaptation of the numbers, ſomewhat reſembling Procruſtes's bed; or (a

leſs diſagreeable compariſon) confines us to the footway, when we have an inclination to ſtray ſweetly devious. How do Dryden's eccentricities ſometimes ſurpriſe with delight! A *regular piece* is a parterre, an *irregular one* a wilderneſs, each having its beauty. The misfortune is: ſome writers without genius imitate Pindar in nothing but his wildneſs, as do others Spenſer and Milton in nothing but their antique and uncouthneſs, and as ſome bon companions imitate Rocheſter and Wharton in nothing but their extravagancy. Or, *regular* compoſition is comparable to a garden; *irregular* to the face of the country at large, where intermiſſions are natural and neceſſary, otherwiſe the mind would be overpowered and confuſed with ornament and ſplendour. Therefore, having perambulated the Pſalms according to the former mode, I will adopt the latter with the Revelation. Allowance made for St. John's great advantage of *Informed Inſpiration*, his and Pindar's genius ſeem to have had an affinity of irregular greatneſs and ſublimity. Here it may be obſerved, that the ſtupendous genius and ſubject of John were inconſiſtent with nice poliſhed refinement, on which account ſome coarſe expreſſions are found, a circumſtance remarked of Homer: which if the Tranſlation has perhaps followed too cloſely in the ſeventeenth chapter; there pervades it a wonderful ſublimity of ſimplicity, truly worthy of the original; and, in my humble opinion, if one part of the Scripture is more ſublime than any other, it is the Revelation, conſequently, the ſublimeſt compoſition in the world; in which, however, ſome of the eccentric imaginations of Ezekiel ſeem to have been the prototypes. Let

a perſon

a perſon turn ſome of the nobleſt parts of Homer into the moſt elevated proſaic Engliſh that may be, and he will find them but as pearls to diamond. St. John's repetitions themſelves are inimitably grand and beautiful: inequalities he has in common with all exalted penmen; and his tranſitions particularly are more ſudden than the Pſalmiſt's. A great irregular writer may be compared to one galloping and walking by turns, inſtead of being always on the jog. Intending to remark on ſome paſſages as I proceed, I will not detain the Reader from his journey, longer than to remind thoſe unuſed to travel unfrequented roads of verſification, that I have placed a few way-poſts. The irregular meaſure affords the means of fitting the odes to the chapters; ſo that the Book of Revelation will conſiſt of a poem compoſed of many pieces, any of which repeated will, in reſpect of concord, reſemble a regular one, as the Revelation conſiſts of various deſcriptions of the laſt day in epitome, or poſſibly of a comet. I will repeat the concluding lines of each, by way of chorus, after the manner of Dryden's *Cecilia*.

Pope makes a ſomewhat aukward and contradictory apology in the advertiſement prefixed to his *Meſſiah*, in expreſſing his fears of having prejudiced his *ſelections* from Iſaiah, at the ſame time that he ſpeaks of the diſadvantage of their literal tranſlation; from which it might be inferred, that he thought one in verſe, by ſome able hand, on a liberal conſtruction, wanting to the Scripture in general.

THE

THE

REVELATION.

ODE I. Chap. I.

JOHN to the churches ſev'n of *Aſia* ſends,
Grace and Peace, and Mercy blends,
Of Him that was, and is, and is to come, V. 4. John
From the ſpirits, ſev'n that Him, eternally ſurround
And hallelujah's ſweet reſound,
Whilſt winds ambroſial breathe upon each dome.
And from Jeſus Chriſt the bleſs'd, at God's benign commands
Who waſhed of their ſins the lands 5. And
And burſt of Death and Hell the bands:
Who made us pure,
Gave us fortitude and might 6 And
To be righteous in God's ſight—
To him dominion, glory, rule, that always ſhall endure.

Hark! the thunder ſpeaks aloud, 7 Behold
See him borne upon the cloud!

Then each aſtoniſh'd ſoul ſhall quake,
Burſt the ſkies, and round world ſhake:
Hark! arrives the mighty *when*,
Sounds ocean, earth, and air, the wonderful *Amen!*

'Twas in Patmos' gilded iſle,
Where ſtreams live and *where* eternal olives ſmile:
9. I— 'Twas the ſacred Sabbath's day
That wrapp'd my ſoul, and flung around a dazzling ray,
Heav'nly glory did diſplay;
Then ſuddenly a wind,
10. I— Like to the waking trump, came ruſhing on behind,
And thus ſpake no human voice,
And bade my trembling frame rejoice—
11. Saying— *Alpha* and *Omega* I
Whirl'd the earth and lit the ſky:
Tell the churches what thou'ſt ſeen,
That with the Lord in glory thou haſt been.

In rapturous amazement drown'd,
¶ 2. And— Quick I turn'd my body round;
When before my ſwimming view,
From ſeven golden candleſticks, looſe wavy glories flew.
13. And— From the midſt ſtreams living ran,
Ineffable effulgence ſweet declar'd the ſon of man:
A garment gemm'd about him flow'd,
In his count'nance goodneſs glow'd;
14. His— His hair was ſnow's unſully'd white
And his eyes were globes of light;
15. And— His feet were like the burniſh'd braſs
Taken from the molten maſs;

His

His mighty accent was a call
Like a roaring waterfall;
Scatter'd ſeven ſtars their rays
And his face was Phœbus' blaze;
Proſtrate at his feet I fell, unable thus to gaze.
But he touch'd my ſhiv'ring frame,
And bidding fear to be gone, himſelf did thus proclaim:
" Fear not, I am firſt and laſt,
" Sin is fled, and Woe is paſt,
" Woe is paſt, and life's begun,
" Behold what vivid orbs new-born rollround a brighter
" Burſt the grave, I no more die, [ſun.
" Safe, O world, on me rely,
" I bade the bars of Death, and Hell in ſunder fly.
" Write the viſion, and reveal,
" Tell the wonder, naught conceal.
" Saw'ſt thou not ſev'n ſtars that gave
" Aurora's ſplendour to the wave?
" They the ſeven angels bright myſterious did diſplay;
" And the candleſticks of gold
" Emboſs'd in heav'ns etherial mould,
" Did myſtic to your raviſh'd ſight the churches ſev'n con-
" Churches that new ſaints ſhall wing [vey:
" Angels to the throne of God,
" Thron'd in the Heav'n of Heav'ns ſerene abode
" That round the Omnipotent ſing."

16 And—

17. And—

18. I—

19. Write—

20. The

CHORUS.

" *Churches that new ſaints ſhall wing*
" *Angels to the throne of God,*
" *Thron'd in the Heav'n of Heav'ns ſerene abode*
" *That round the Omnipotent ſing.*"

ODE

Chap. 4.

O D E II.

1. After— OP'D Heaven's door harmonious ſounding
Trumpets with loud clangor bounding:
2 And— Broke on my ſight a living throne,
And ſplendour's dancing maze my fancy wrapt o'er ſhone;
A rainbow in ten thouſand views
O'er arching ſcatter'd high ten thouſand beauteous hues,
3 And— And he that ſat thereon outblaz'd the Sardine ſtone.
Four and twenty ſeats of light
4. And— Held four and twenty elders bright,
On whoſe heads pure crowns of gold, beam'd o'er their
Voices, lightning, thunder, [rayment white.
5. And— Were mingled in the awful wonder:
Seven *lamps* flames curling rear'd
And emblems of the ſpirits bleſs'd, around the throne ap-
A ſea of chryſtal waves [pear'd;
Forms the floor and footſtool laves;
6. And— Four beaſts themſelves preſent
In colours of the firmament,
Round which the ſpangled pavement threw
Eyes countleſs as the ſtars amid' the vivid æther's blue.
A lion one, with ſtately pace,
7. And— The next an ox, with gilded horns,
The third endu'd with human face,
The fourth the eagle's fire adorns.
Six wings had each that heav'nly fragrance breathe,
Spotted all, with eyes beneath:

And

And day and night
With new delight
They never reſt
To ſpeak Him bleſs'd,
But ſay—
" Holy, holy, holy Three,
" That were, and are, and are to be !"

8. And

Then, as glad the beaſts proclaim
All glory, honour, thanks to his eternal name,
The elders fall before him and declare
All worſhip due to them, which thro' all ages are—
" Worthy thou of honour, Lord !
" Glory, worſhip, Thee await!
" Who mad'ſt the planets' paths accord,
" Ranged high in ſhining ſtate !"

9. And—

10. The—

11. Thou—

C H O R U S.

" *Worthy Thou of honour Lord!*
" *Glory, worſhip, Thee await!*
" *Who mad'ſt the planets' paths accord,*
" *Ranged high in ſhining ſtate.*"

O D E III.

Chap. V.

AND He which did from the mid-throne command, V. 1. And—
A full-charg'd ſealed book, held forth within his hand;
And an Angel bright and ſtrong
Thus proclaim'd with ſolemn tongue,
That earth and air the words prolong:

2 And—

" Who opes the book and rends the ſeals
" And the mighty truths reveals?"
Then did awful ſilence reign,
3 And— Huſh'd the wind and roaring main,
And ſullen gloom o'erſpread the chryſtal-glazed plain;
For durſt none to ope the book
Nor on the mighty ſeal to look.
Seiz'd deep ſorrow on my ſoul
4. And— And down my face the tears did roll,
Becauſe durſt none to ope the book
And in the hidden treaſure look.
But an elder ſpake relief,
Dry'd my eyes and ſtopp'd my grief:
5. And— " Bleſs'd David's offspring bleeding at the ſhrine
" Of man's redemption, lamb divine,
" In meekneſs ſtrong ſhall open wide the book,
" And read where man and angel yield with aching ſight to [look."
6. And— Straight the bleeding Lamb was ſeen,
Now o'er the ſpirits ſev'n enthron'd, in glory cloath'd ſerene;
And took the book from the Almighty's hand,
7. And— Of Him which hell, earth, ſea, air rules, with abſolute com-
Then the beaſts all proſtrate fell [mand.
With the elders, ſpotleſs bright,
Twang'd their harps prepar'd to tell
With conſort-angel-choirs the acts of new-born light.
Scents ambroſial load the gale
9. And— And on purple pinions ſail;
Whilſt a new-made ſong ſublime
On Aurora jocund rode,
Loud was heard the welcome chyme,
10 And— And in ſtreams of muſic flow'd:

" Now,

" Now, ye vernal years, come forth,
" Hail'd your long-expected birth, [earth."
" Heaven itſelf illum'd afreſh and bleſs'd in peace the
Ten thouſand cherubims did raiſe 11 And—
Their voices, Seraphims ten thouſand praiſe,
Angels, archangels, in full choir did greet,
Myriads of ſweet inſtruments in uniſon did meet;
Ev'ry creature, ev'ry tongue in gratitude did blend, 12. Saying—
Becauſe to ſave mankind, the Lamb, ſo low did condeſcend:
Unfathom'd ſpace did not the ſong confine,
" To God be glory and the Lamb, divine,
" And bleſſings, honour, pow'r, for evermore combine." 13. And—
All, all hail the mighty *When*, 14. And—
Each ſtring vibrates, each breath ſwells the wonderful *Amen*.

CHORUS.

" *To God be glory and the Lamb divine,*
" *And bleſſings, honour, pow'r for evermore combine.*"
All, all hail the mighty WHEN, [AMEN.
Each ſtring vibrates, each breath ſwells the wonderful

ODE IV.

Chap. VI

LO! op'd the Lamb the firſt-rang'd ſeal,
And quick the ſhrowding clouds emit reſponſive peal, V. 1. And—
And fierce-encount'ring hoſts themſelves in flames reveal.
Capariſon'd appears a milk-white horſe [ble courſe.
And prances o'er the ſtar-pav'd way of Heaven with nim-

And

2. And— And one that ſat thereon with diadem and bow,
Did immortal luſtre ſhow,
And kindling ſteeds ruſh forth,
Conqu'ring and to conquer bent, of empyrean birth.
At the ſecond, flaſhing ſprung
3. And— Meteors red, and dreadful flung
Eager flames; of ſanguine hue
4. And— I ſaw a ſteed, whilſt nations rue
As th' embattled whirldwind flew.
At the third, a ballance fell
5. And— From heaven's fair roof, whilſt heralds tell
On coal-black ſteeds—" Injuſtice flee to hell,
" Peace and Joy, and Plenty reign,
6. And— " And no more th' oppreſs'd complain."
Op'd the fourth, and livid pale
7. And— Is ſeen a ſteed, and horrors round prevail:
Upon him Death
8. And— Sat fraught with plague and peſtilential breath,
Hell purſues with womb full-ſtor'd,
And Deſolation with hot-reeking ſword.
The fifth was op'd, and ev'ry ſpirit bleſs'd
9. And— Of ev'ry martyr ſlain, Religion's dauntleſs teſt,
Each ſaint whoſe blood its ſacred truths confeſs'd,
10. And— All ſmote their breaſts—" On Thee, Lord, we rely,
" How long ſhall men provoke thy goodneſs and defy?"
But ſoon I ſaw them thron'd in height,
Clad in pureſt heaven's light:
Them ſoon their ſuff'ring brethren join
(Companions of their woe, companions now divine)
Enhanſe the ſcenes of bliſs and full in glory ſhine.
Lo! He opens the ſixth ſeal,
11. And— And ſackcloth did the ſun conceal,

As

As the earthquake's frightful ſhocks
Heav'd the depths, and riv'd the rocks,
And wrapp'd in bloody hue, the moon ſtrange ſpectres did
From their ſockets ruſh'd the ſtars, [reveal. 13. And—
As falling fruits when heard the winds tumultuous wars;
Loud the tempeſts howl, 14. And—
The crackling heavens depart and vaniſh like a ſcroll.
" Wretched mortals bond and free, } 15. And—
" Red deſtruction hov'ring ſee,
" And haſty to each den, and hollow cavern flee,
" To mountains of the trembling deſart hie, } 16 And—
" To mountains of the trembling deſart cry,
" O ſhield us from His face, whilſt in your dens we lie:"
" The time is ſure arriv'd, tremendous day!" 17. For—
" The wrath of God is come, and Ruin mows his way."

CHORUS.

" *Wretched mortals, bond and free,* }
" *Red deſtruction hov'ring ſee,*
" *And haſty to each den, and hollow cavern flee,*
" *To mountains of the trembling deſart hie,* }
" *To mountains of the trembling deſart cry,*
" *O ſhield us from His face, whilſt in your dens we lie:*
" *The time is ſure arriv'd, tremendous day!*
" *The wrath of God is come, and ruin mows his way.*"

Chap. VII.

O D E V.

V. 1. And— BUT now each tumult huſh'd, each tempeſt ſtill,
Four angels their chang'd taſk with joy fulfill,
To hold the winds ſave where they fan the leaf and curl the [rill.
And glorioufly array'd from out the eaſt,
2. And— Another peace reſounds to man and beaſt;
And ſaid as in his hand ſhone God's own ſeal, " Reſtrain
" The ſtorm, and toſs no more the earth and air, and main;
3. Saying— " Behold God's ſeal, the living God's I bear,
" Decree of Heaven's Almighty Sire indelible I bear,
" Decree of Heaven's Almighty Sire indelible declare."
4. And— Then twelve times thouſand twelve, twelve thouſand of each name,
The ſtamp of Heaven receiv'd, the firſt of heav'nly fame.
Then kindreds, nations, tongues, throng'd myriads move,
9 After— Thick as autumnal leaves when ſhakes the grove,
Or ſtars or ocean's ſands,
All rob'd appear in white, and palms are in their hands;
10. And— Then join their voices that rebounds the praiſe,
Such as utter deathleſs choirs and ſouls celeſtial raiſe;
" Salvation, glory, wonder to the lord
" And the ſpotleſs lamb accord!"
11. And— Thus elders, angels, and archangels pray'd,
And proſtrate fell at Goodneſs ſuch diſplay'd;
12. Saying— Thankſgivings ceaſeleſs ſky's new regions rend,
To God, and to the Lamb that thus did condeſcend,
15. Therefore The Lamb that ſeated on th' Eternal's throne,
Ineffable in glory ſhone—

" No

" No more ſhall ſhrill hunger prevail, 16. They—
" No more ſultry ſuns parch the throat;
" (Life of angels,) on Gratitude's ſtreams we will ſail 17. For—
" And drink deep of rich Harmony's note."

CHORUS.

" *No more ſhall ſhrill hunger prevail,*
" *No more ſultry ſuns parch the throat;*
" *(Life of angels,) on Gratitude's ſtreams we will ſail*
" *And drink deep of rich Harmony's note.*"

ODE VI.

Chap. VIII.

THEN (op'd the ſeventh) ſudden did enſue V. 1. And—
A ſolemn ſilence, till ſev'n angels blew
(The *ſev'n* the throne terrific circling round)
A trumpet, each, ſurcharg'd with Deſolation's ſound, 2. And—
That threaten'd earth and heaven in chaos to confound.
Then another perfume breathes 3. And—
A cenſer holding; curling wreaths
Of od'rous ſmoke from caſſia ſweet 4. And—
And frankincenſe aſcending greet.
This with fire and whirlwind fraught
From the burniſh'd altar caught
Deep he plunges in the earth, 5. And—
That voices, lightnings, thunders, iſſue forth,
And the angels ſev'n prepare 6. And—
To ſound their trumps and æther tear.

Blew

8. And— Blew the firſt, and fire and hail
Sudden did o'er the world prevail,
Nature wither'd, foreſts burn'd,
Structures proud to aſhes turn'd.
The ſecond blew,
And ſtarting mountains burning flew,
Ruſh'd into the bubbling flood,
Ocean ſaw his waters blood
9. And— That in the fruitful valleys ſtood,
Leviathan ingulph'd the ſcalding tide
And in the bloody whirlpool dy'd.
Blew the third, a flaming ſtar
10. And— Rage denounc'd and wide-ſtretch'd war,
Dread a fiery torrent pour'd
And in conflict tempeſts roar'd,
Rivers ſunk and hiſſing ſtreams
Ceas'd as they felt its angry gleams.
12. And— At the fourth, the moon and ſun
From their fixed orbits run.
An angel ſtraight in whirlwind driven
13. And— Hurry'd thro' the vault of heaven,
Saying, " Woe, woe, woe, thou earth,
" Woe to whom thou gaveſt birth !
" Horrors, horrors ſtill ſurround ;
" What dire ſcenes ſhall ſoon abound
" When the other angels ſound !

CHORUS.

" *Woe, woe, woe unto the earth*
" *And to them it curs'd with birth!*
" *Horrors, horrors ſtill ſurround ;*
" *What dire ſcenes ſhall ſoon abound*
" *When the other angels ſound!*"

ODE

O D E VII.

Chap. IX

AS bids the fifth his trumpet's blaſt ariſe, V. 1. And—
Stars, planets, moon, and ſun, burſt lawleſs thro' the ſkies,
And bottomleſs was ſeen a pit, whence broke
Sulphur's ſtench and pitchey ſmoke, 2. And—
That quench'd of ev'ry light the ray
And in darkneſs wrapp'd the day;
With locuſts fill'd the teeming air 3. And—
That with ſcorpions might compare:
Yet had they not the boundleſs pow'r
The trees and herbage to devour, 4. And—
But only on the impious, plagues to ſhow'r.
Was heard on high the ſounding ſcourge,
That did the guilty nations purge. 5. And—
In duſt ſhall the fell miſcreants gaſping lie,
Whilſt none ſhall with their ardent wiſh comply,
But each to end their wretched lives deny; 6. And—
Shall mock their idle wailings tardy Death,
Nor burſt their vital bands and ſtop their hated breath,
But by Fate's ſevere decree
Deaf from ev'ry wretch ſhall flee.
The ſcorpion-locuſts ſhape their courſe
Like the battle-winged horſe; 7. Horſe—
Their heads like mens in glory bold,
Arm'd their fronts with crowns of gold,
Their iv'ry teeth did ape the brindled lion's force. 8. Gold—
Their breaſts did warriours' blaze reveal
Girt with temper'd ſhining ſteel;

9. And— Borne on gliſt'ning wings they wheel'd
Like chariots ruſhing to the field;
11. And— Obedient to a king they rove
And to marſhall'd conqueſt move,
And crowd their monarch round and eager ſhield.
13 And— So loud the ſixth trump ſends its ſound
That ſtart the angels which ſurround.
16. Bright— Legions riſe in armour bright, [fight:
Countleſs horſemen beat the plains and glance before my
Breaſt-plates flaſhing waves of fire
17. And— Did my throbbing heart inſpire,
With martial glory fill'd and fierce deſire.
18. By— Involv'd in ruddy ſmoke they whirl'd
Light'ning jav'lins round them hurl'd, [guin'd world.
Death triumphant fought in fight, and thinn'd th' enſan-

C H O R U S.

Involv'd in ruddy ſmoke they whirl'd,
Light'ning jav'lins round them hurl'd, [*world.*
Death triumphant fought in fight, and thinn'd th' enſanguin'd

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Chap. X.

O D E VIII.

V. 1. And— BUT a mighty angel came
Wrapp'd in light and ruddy flame:
A cloudy mantle o'er him flows,
Fires of Phœbus on his brows;
And a rainbow round his head ten thouſand colours throws.

His

His hands a ſmaller book contain; 2. And—
One foot on earth he plac'd, the other on the main;
Then lifts his voice as when a lion roars, 3. And—
And the trembling hills reply, and hoarſe-aſſaulted ſhores.
Then ſev'n thunders voices ſend
That tow'rs o'erturn and bulwarks rend:
And as their words the thunders ſev'n declar'd,
To record them I prepar'd; 4. And—
But from heaven a voice proclaim'd
" Seal the book nor tell the things the thunders ſev'n have [nam'd."
The angel then who ſun-beams rode
And o'er the earth and ocean ſtrode, 5. And—
Sware by Him th' Eternal Lord [they afford,
Which made the Heaven, and earth, and ſea, and all that
" That time ſhou'd be no more, nor with the ſtars accord: 6. And—
" That when the ſeventh trump ſhall ſhake
" The realms above and bid the mountains quake, 7. But—
" That ev'ry myſt'ry ſhall be full his mighty prophets ſpake.'

CHORUS.

" *That time ſhou'd be no more, nor with the ſtars accord:*
" *That when the ſeventh trump ſhall ſhake*
" *The realms above and bid the mountains quake,*
" *That ev'ry myſt'ry ſhall be full, his mighty prophets ſpake.*"

ODE

Chap. XI.

O D E IX.

V. 15. And THE ſeventh ſounding, rang Heaven's dome
That the reign of Chriſt was come.
16. Shone—The elders with ſurpaſſing glory ſhone
And proſtrate fell before the throne,
17. Saying And ſaid, " O God, who wert, and art, and art to be,
" Receive our thanks, that wickedneſs doth flee,
" And at the laſt we righteous judgements ſee.
" That Virtue's foes whelm'd in confuſion find
18. And— " The righteous unto peace perpetual aſſign'd,
" Tho' ſons of Death fell diſcord nurſe
" And victorious Goodneſs curſe."
Ope the doors eternal wide
19. And— Whilſt of glory pours the tide;
Read, read with awful thrilling fear
The *Will* of God, and glad revere;
With welcome horror ſee the fi'ry hail, [ball aſſail.
And lightnings, thundrings, earthquakes view, the changing

CHORUS.

Ope the doors eternal wide
Whilſt of glory pours the tide;
Read, read with awful thrilling fear
The will of God, and glad revere;
With welcome horror ſee the fiery hail, [*ball aſſail.*
And lightnings, thundrings, earthquakes view, the changing

ODE

O D E X.

Chap. XII.

BUT now in Heaven a mighty wonder's ſeen, V. 1. And—
A woman cloathed with the ſun, the ſky around ſerene.
The full-orb'd moon beneath her feet,
Twelve ſtars ſparkle o'er her head, whoſe rays in glory
But of travel, torn with pain, [meet: 2. And—
Did ſhe bitterly complain.
Another wonder ſcatter'd then affright, 3. And—
A hideous dragon ſmote the ſight.
Sev'n heads he had and twice five horns,
And ev'ry radiant head a ſev'n-fold crown adorns:
The ſame of Heaven's bright ſtars a third that with him
He brandiſhes his tongue before the woman's view, [drew, 4. And—
And couch'd to ſeize her child when born, and round her
terrors threw. 5. And—
But girt with light the birth celeſtial ſhone,
God caught it up in glory to his throne,
And the mother fled away 6. And—
In the wilderneſs to ſtray;
Yet there his Providence ſhe found [ground.
In pleaſant fruits and ſtreams that play'd along the deſart

Erſt in Heaven a war aroſe;
Th' Almighty *Michael's* proweſs choſe. 7. And—
The dragon iſſu'd proud commands
And led to fight his furious bands;

The God of battle's ſway audaciouſly diſdain'd,
8. And— But driv'n in flames athwart the ſky, no more the ſhock
From heights of heav'n was hurry'd down, [ſuſtain'd;
9 And— Lightning fell his beamy crown,
And with his fiends that boaſt deceit,
Snares outſpread and mankind cheat,
Who pil'd in conflict world on world;
In dire o'erwhelming diſmal rout, to depth of hell was hurl'd.
Then loud-rang th' eternal dome
10. And— That the reign of Chriſt was come.
When the dragon ſmoak'd on earth,
13. And— He aſſail'd the woman's birth:
But lifted on the eagle's plumes
14. And— She his ſtrength and ſhape aſſumes,
Is wafted to the wilderneſs, the ſun her flight illumes;
Where no mortal e'er did tread,
Myſtic bruis'd the ſerpent's head.
15. And— Tremendous then the dragon ſtood
And poured from his mouth a flood:
But the earth did kindneſs ſhow
And the deluge ſunk below,
And dragon marr'd; whom ſwell'd with ceaſeleſs rage,
No miſchief done to man can his fell thirſt aſſuage.

CHORUS.

But the earth did kindneſs ſhow
And the deluge ſunk below,
And dragon marr'd; whom ſwell'd with ceaſeleſs rage,
No miſchief done to man can his fell thirſt aſſuage.

ODE

O D E XI.

Chap. XIII.

YET another beaſt I ſaw, himſelf alone an hoſt, V. 1. And—
Forth riſing from the ſea that beat the ſandy coaſt;
That mov'd a ſhaggy bear,
A tyger ſprang, Hyena glow'd with more terrific glare,
Or a ſpotted leopard lies, 2. And—
Or, a lion's royal ſounds and awful roarings riſe;
And the dragon gave him pow'r,
In exalted pride to tow'r.
But behold a ſtroke is ſped
On his ſev'nfold teeming head, 3 And—
That his form prodigious reel'd
And wonder'd all to ſee him heal'd,
This was the dragon's beaſt in fearful ſhapes diſplay'd
And in radiant ſcales array'd, 4. And—
Impious homage to him paid.
His vot'ries told his ſtrength and bold defy'd;
Who is like to him, they ſaid, in whom we all confide?
Rampant he his proweſs boaſts * 5 And—
That none can match his warring hoſts;
Does horribly the God of Heaven blaſpheme 6. And—
And thoſe curſe that wiſh faln man, by virtue to redeem:
Great was he wide regions o'er,
Stretch'd his ſway from ſhore to ſhore. 7. And—
All the wicked unbleſs'd race,
Unmark'd by God's own living ſeal, 8 And—

* Os magna ſoniturum.

Who

Who of the Lamb knew not the grace
That was ere earth was hung in ambient ſpace,
Shall worſhip the dread beaſt and ſharp repentance feel.
9. If— (Let all with ears to hear
Attend with trembling fear.)
He that does in fetters bind
Shall himſelf dire bondage find:
10. He— Who delights himſelf with blood
Shall rue the murd'rous ſword, and be the raven's food:
The righteous ſhall with perſecution ſtrive,
Knowing that, in God's good time, true judgement ſhall
11. And— Then a kindred beaſt I ſaw, [arrive.
Meek as a lamb his look, but of devouring maw;
12. And— That the ſaints of God alarm'd,
Forc'd obedience to his mate and with like fangs was arm'd.
13. And— He mirac'lous wonders wrought,
Fires in the ſight of men, from high, deſtructive brought;
14. And— Witchcraft and guile does he poſſeſs,
Deceives mankind, and makes the world his direful mate
confeſs.

CHORUS.

Witchcraft and guile does he poſſeſs, [*ſeſs.*
Deceives mankind, and makes the world his direful mate con-

ODE

O D E XII.

Chap. XIV.

ON Sion's ſtory'd mount — V. 1. And—
Stood the ſpotleſs Lamb of ev'ry good the fount;
And the twelve times thouſand twelve in orient rayment [bright,
Shed around immortal light.
Then the voice of waters guſhing
And of thunders ſudden ruſhing,
Invade my ear, and loud combine — 2. And—
Harps majeſtic, divine;
From Heaven deſcended the ſong
Sion's rivers reſponſive along.
Sacred to th' Almighty's praiſe — 3. And—
Were th' immortal choſen lays,
Such as none but God's, own choriſters cou'd raiſe.
Theſe were the ſons of God, elected ſure, — 5. And—
Who rather than the ſcepter'd world his favour wou'd procure.
As mount the winds the pealing harp, there flew
An angel that a ſtream of glory drew, — 6. And—
The everlaſting goſpel preach'd and taught ſalvation new:
Words of Death that blunt the ſting,
And univerſal reſt and peace eternal bring,
Yet words that bid from Sin to flee — 7. Saying—
And His wrath eſcape who made the earth and air and ſea.
Another ſtooping cry'd—" Proud Babylon is ſunk,
" With wine and curs'd abominations drunk; — 8. And—
" Rankling the mighty miſchief ſpread
" And taught a ſinful world the ſteps of Death to tread.

Cloath'd in like terrors, a third angel came
9. And— And did, earth-ſhaking, thus proclaim:
" If any man fall down before the beaſt,
10 The— " The mark of him receive, that glories in the eaſt,
" Surely he ſhall to torments be aſſign'd
" And toſſing on a fi'ry lake of brimſtone be confin'd,
" Whoſe ſmoke ſhall endleſs endleſs riſe,
11. And— " Mount in infernal clouds and blot the ſkies,
" And night and day
" The paly flames ſhall curl, and on his entrails prey."

Then came a living angel's voice
13 And— Borne on the eager winds, and bade the world rejoice.
" Rejoice, whoſe works are ſumm'd, who in his favour
" Who on the Saviour of the world rely; [die,
" To joys prepar'd ere earth exiſted, hie;
" From ev'ry pain and labour reſt,
" The God of peace commands you to be bleſs'd,
" See on yon fleecy cloud, the ſon of man confeſs'd."
Purple light about me glow'd,
15. And— As to my lifted eyes they ſhow'd
Their golden ſickles, crying " Reap, quick reap
" The earth's ripe crop, abominations ſweep."
18. And— Then thoſe appear'd, endu'd with mighty pow'r
To ſtop the raging flames, leſt they the wheat devour,
19. And— But crackling were the tares conſum'd, ere came the dreadful hour.*
20. And— The vintage was ſwiſt pluck'd, pale lightnings ran
And flaſh'd reverſeleſs doom to Heav'n-offending man.

CHORUS.

The vintage was ſwift pluck'd, pale lightnings ran
And flaſh'd reverſeleſs doom to Heav'n-offending man.

ODE

* Atque levem ſtipulam cripitantibus erere flammis. VIRG.

O D E XIII.

Chap. XV.

I Saw another marvellous and all-compleating ſign, V. 1. And—
Sev'n angels with the ſeven plagues that fill'd the wrath divine.

A glazed ſea with ſtars was fraught,
And thoſe that glorious actions wrought,
That with ſurpaſſing proweſs fought,
Their praiſes heard from out the ſea of fire ; 2. And—
Whilſt harps of God each boſom warm'd,
The purpling air and dancing planets charm'd
With conqueſt of the beaſt in gorgeous terrors arm'd,
And heavenly joys did inſpire—
Rung " How Moſes and Aaron reliev'd
" Thee, Jacob, no more in captivity griev'd, 3. And—
" And the barriers of ocean cleav'd :
" High tremendous he ſtood,
" Walls of chryſtal his flood,
" And Pharaoh *Jehovah* believ'd.
" How the Lamb vanquiſh'd Hell" (then they ſung)
" How in view he was lifted above,
" Heaven's roofs, Heaven's manſions all rung
" Tranſcendent unmatch'd was his love.
" All thy juſtice in mercy ſhall fear, 4. Who—
" Lord of hoſts, Thee, Thee all ſhall adore,
" Thee, Thee ſhall enraptur'd revere,
" And ſtrains of high extacy ſoar."

The

5. And— The temple's doors now ſounding, I behold
Earth's hiſtory in volumes deep enroll'd,
6. And— And clad in richeſt colours of the ſkies
The *angels ſev'n*, the *ſev'n laſt plagues* comprize.
7. And— The wrath of God was diſmal ſeen
To wrap the face of Heaven ſerene:
Louring mounts a fire
8 And— In duſky waves on waves till the *ſev'n plagues expire.*

CHORUS.

The wrath of God was diſmal ſeen,
And wrapp'd the light of Heaven ſerene:
Louring mounts a fire
In duſky waves on waves till the ſev'n plagues *expire.*

Chap. XVI.

ODE XIV.

V. 1. And— BUT hark! the winds tumultuous fury blend,
And hollow ſounds the ſolemn temple rend,
(Prepar'd the angels to pour forth
Their charged vials on the earth.)

2. Blind— The firſt was ſhed, and ſpotted blains
Each overſpread that fought with God, and rack'd with
Diſcharg'd the ſecond, the cadav'rous ſea [nauſeous pains.
3 And— Putrid confeſs'd the doom'd decree.

The

The third made deadly ev'ry food
And the fountains turn'd to blood. 4. And—
Then loud an angel of the waters ſaid,
" O Lord, who wert, and art, and ſhalt, in glory be array'd, 5. And—
" Juſt are thy judgments, Lord, tho' terrible diſplay'd,
" Againſt thy ſaints and prophets they conſpir'd, 6. For—
" Be blood their drink who righteous blood deſir'd."
Polluted with ſtrange fires the ſmoaking ſun 8. And—
The fourth, that ſtarting from their courſe the ſpheres
Darts his orb diſaſt'rous flames [aſtoniſh'd run;
And the fearful things proclaims:
Nor yet did deprecate ſuch judgements ſent
Man, nor of his ways yet quick repent. 9 And—
Quench'd the fifth of Heav'n the light
And fill'd the earth with horror and affright, } 10. And—
Sav'd what apparitions glar'd, all was deep diſmal night.
Dry'd at the ſixth was ev'ry ſtream,
Each river wont to baſk in day's meridian beam: 12. And—
Euphrates ſelf that us'd to ſtray [to his ſway,
O'er the wide eaſt, whilſt thouſand ſprings paid tribute }
Along his fertile-winding banks did ſad diſeaſe convey·
Pour'd was the ſeventh; and a voice 17. And—
That drown'd the tempeſt, ſped on whirlwind's noiſe,
A voice that ſhouts of joy wou'd quell, for mightieſt battle won,
Was uſher'd from the throne, and trembling fane—'Tis
Then rent expiring nature the rude ſtorm, [DONE. 18. And—
Such as ne'er did Heaven enwrap, or ocean's face deform.
Earth trembled, on its baſis rock'd,
Caverns of th' abyſs unlock'd;
Trees and tow'rs aloft were borne 19. And—
And into triple parts proud Babylon was torne,

Drunken with wine the world ſhall reel,
And diſſolution join'd with pangs of labour feel ;*
Driv'n hills and iſles adown in headlong courſe
20. And— In tumult nature from her bulwarks force,
And blazing vaults above the jagged hail congeal.
21. And— Then ſhall her deſp'rate ſons their Maker curſe,
Within their guilty ſouls ſelf-gnawing furies nurſe
And with wild blaſphemy behold the ſable-groaning hearſe.

CHORUS.

Then ſhall her deſp'rate ſons their Maker curſe,
Within their guilty ſouls ſelf-gnawing furies nurſe
And with wild blaſphemy behold the ſable-groaning hearſe.

Chap. XVII. **ODE XV.**

V. 1. And— BUT of the ſev'n one kindly me beſpoke—
" See what doom the harlot waits that Heaven has
2. With— " The harlot Babylon that ſtately roſe [durſt provoke ;
" Where the meeting water flows.
" Kings of the earth with her entwine,
" Drunk with her fornication's wine."

Me

* I would here intend the diſſolution of the old world blended with the birth of the new.

Me then he took (ſwam my rapt giddy head)
And ſwift into the wilderneſs, on whiſtling wings I ſped; 3. So—
Where, falling roſes round her ſtrew'd,
I a ſcarlet harlot view'd.
There flaunting on a rampant beaſt
She ſat in pomp and ſplendour of the eaſt; 4. And—
In a ſpangled luring veſt
Shone the earth's audacious peſt;
Her jewels caſt a dazzling light,
And this legend ſtruck my ſight.

" O ye good, flee ſwift, retreat!
" *Hicroglyphic, Babylon the great:*
" Abomination, curſe, and univerſe's cheat." } 5 And—

C H O R U S.

" *O ye good, flee ſwift, retreat!*
" Hicroglyphic, Babylon the great;
" *Abomination, curſe, and univerſe's cheat.*" }

O D E XVI.

Chap. XVIII

ANOTHER angel now mid' terror's ſound, V. 1. And—
Cloath'd with pow'r ſpread glory round.
Earth illuming down he wheels
Proclaiming loud, " The deep foundations reel
Of Babylon, of God th' avenging juſtice feel. 2. And—

" Ev'ry

" Ev'ry proud majeſtic dome
" Deſolation ſhall become,
" Void ſhall be of light and foul,
" Groan the ghoſt and flap the owl,
3. For— " Glare the fiend and wolves loud-howl.
" Her luxury the world o'errun,
" Her whoredoms ſham'd the conſcious ſun, [begun.
" Uncleanneſs darker made the night, and with the day
4. And— " O my people, leave her, leave,
" That ye not her cup receive;
" Her ſins on redden'd pinions fly
5. For— " And Heaven aſſail and dread for mercy cry.
" What ſhe gives, to her return,
6. Reward " Hate for hate, and ſpurn for ſpurn,
" As erſt with luſt, ſhe now with rage ſhall burn.
7. How— " Queen of the world, that gorgeous us'd to ſtalk,
" Now let her barefoot on the brambles walk;
" In delicacies' ſtead ſhall plagues conſpire
8. Therefore " To fall upon her head, and blow avenging fire:
" Thus ſaith the God, that wraps the ball,
" That kindles the hot air, and bids the mountains fall.
" Kings that liv'd upon her ſmile
9. And— " Enchanted with infectious guile,
" Where flutter'd her gay ſtreamers, fond to ſail,
" Deſpairing ſhall the direful change bewail,
" Aloof ſhall eye her ſmoaking roofs, and hear
10. Standing " Riſe heavy ſullen ſounds, from ruin drear,
" Whilſt flitting ſaints around, in bloody white appear.
" Sorrow ſhall ſeize the ſons of gain [marts contain.
" Smiting their breaſts, that merchandize no more her
11. And— " Her center'd wealth ſhall none e'er more behold,
" No marble's vein meand'ring, ſilks enroll'd

" Nor

" Nor ſilv'ry walls ſhall glitter more ; 12. The—
" No more the vaſe of Ophir's gold,
" Nor of living gems the ſtore
" From the ſoft caſket's damaſk down be ſold ;
" No more balmy odours join
" The zeſt of luſcious liquors to refine,
" And ev'ry raviſh'd ſenſe in one combine ; 13 And—
" No more in ſcented baths the nobles lave,
" Fann'd by the glad officious ſlave,
" Nor offer men their ſouls at Tyranny's lov'd ſhrine.
" None the fruit of morn eſpy, 14. And—
" Fruits that with the morning vie,
" Nor ſtretch'd beneath the palm the painted ſorc'reſs lie.
" No more muſick's voice reſounds,
" Cymbal wakes and tabret bounds, 22. And—
" Dulcimer and ſackbut charm,
" Or the martial trumpet warm,
" And rouſe her conqu'ring ſons, and fartheſt ſhores alarm.
" No more the bridegroom gay enhance
" The hours, and lead the feſtive dance ; 23. And—
" No more the bridal taper yield
" Myſtic joys but half reveal'd,
" Souls no more in wedlock mix, and ſink in holy trance.
" Blood and horrors ſhe decreed, 24 And—
" Blood and horrors be her meed !"

CHORUS.

" *Blood and horrors ſhe decreed,*
" *Blood and horrors be her meed!*

Chap. XIX.

O D E XVII.

V. 1. And— NOW the Courts of heav'n rejoice,
And utter forth a merry voice;
Songs of gratitude are ſung,
Hallelujahs ceaſeleſs rung—
" Salvation, glory, honour be to God,
" Who o'er the kingdoms weilds his rod;
" Righteous are his ſearchleſs ways,
2. For— " Sound, ye ſpheres, and ſhout his praiſe!
" For the Harlot fleſh'd in blood,
" That his mercy, grace, withſtood,
" Wallow'd in ſin; in ſunder torn,
" Is back to empty nothing borne.
" Hallelujah, ſaints of light!
3. And— " She's blotted, blotted from the ſight,
" See ſullen mounts her ſmoke in endleſs endleſs night."

4. And— Then the beaſts and elders fell:
Angels ſoaring, ſaints adoring,
5. And— " Lord, who ſhall thy goodneſs tell?"
6. And— Learnt the firmament His name,
And in thunders did proclaim—
" Rules th' Almighty unconfin'd,
7. Let— " Whoſe mercies, ſpeakleſs, earth and heav'n combin'd,
" By the Lamb in wedlock join'd."
The Bride, in ſpotleſs white array'd,
8. And— Meek and modeſt charms diſplay'd,

Clad

Clad as with angels may compare,
When they part the fragrant air.*
Courteous then, with look benign, } 9. And—
He ſaid—" Approach the myſtic ſhrine,
" And partake of joy divine."
I with grateful rev'rence kneel'd
That ſuch comfort he reveal'd : 10. And—
But mildly thus he me rebuk'd—" Give glory to the God,
" Who, ere the world was made, thro' wilds of chaos rode."
Then (op'd the Heavens) I ſudden view'd 11 And—
With ſplendour wond'rous forms endu'd, [flew.
And ſtruck my ſight a milk-white horſe that in loud whirlwind
And a beamy chariot drew,
And he that ſat thereon was call'd *The Faithful and the True.*
(Swift whirl'd the blazing car,
Of § Him who judgments juſt directs, or lights avenging war.)
His armour ſhed light 12. His—
That o'erwhelmed my ſight,
Thick flames ſhot his eyes,
As thro' æther he flies,
And a crown guards his brows
That the galaxy ſhows.

As

* What affinity thoſe verſes have with Solomon's *Song*, from which they are, however, different enough, the reader will judge; but they remind me of thoſe fine lines of Cowley—

Such robes the Saints departed wear,
Woven all with light divine;
Such their exalted bodies are,
And with ſuch full glory ſhine.

§ ———Forth ruſh'd with whirlwind-ſound
The chariot of Paternal Deity.——MILTON.

13. And— As in th' Almighty ſtrength he rode,
Flam'd in gold, THE WORD OF GOD:
14 And— And where on arrow's wings he went,
Milk-white armies, gemm'd all o'er, victorious ſhoutings ſent.
His words impetuous ruin hurl'd
15. And— Thro' the wide diſſolving world;
16. And— The graven hilt his fire records,
KING OF KINGS, AND LORD OF LORDS.
In blood-dipp'd armour ſheath'd, red-darted o'er the field,
17. And— (Fire his ſpear, and ſun his ſhield)
His angel, ire celeſtial in his look,
And the wither'd nations ſhook:
Cry'd, whilſt Heaven's engines roar,
18. That— With rage unmeaſur'd quenchleſs pour
Deſolation's iron ſhow'r—
" Ye eagles, hot, mens carcaſes devour;
" Fowls of the air; kings, princes eat,
" The Lord invites you to a treat."
Yet the Monſter fury-arm'd,
19. And— His beamy faulchion wav'd on high,
Awhile the Hoſts of Heaven alarm'd,
Then did in molten whirlpool fly:
21. And— Conſpicuous in pride he burn'd,
Then ſeiz'd in fight with more infernal rage was toſs'd
To ſee his brazen ranks o'erturn'd,
Himſelf in frightful ruin wrapp'd, and madding legions loſt:
20. And— Down to ſhelt'ring hell he flies,
His fall to rue, and curſe the ſkies.

CHORUS.

Down to ſhelt'ring hell he flies,
His fall to rue, and curſe the ſkies.

O D E XVIII.

Chap. XX.

AS ceas'd the conflict, one of mighty pow'r — V. 1. And—
The ſerpent ſeiz'd that did in battle tow'r,
For twice five hundred years in durance bound, — 2. And—
The maſſy chain ſent forth a clanking ſound.
In the hideous pit he lay
Where with ſtruggling rude eſſay — 3. And—
He fill'd the rocking earth with huge diſmay.
But when a thouſand years be paſt, — 7. And—
Shall he again the kingdoms waſte,
Again the mother of her child bereave
And again the world deceive,
Glut afreſh the hungry deep — 8. And—
And the earth in crimſon ſteep,
Again defiance grimly boaſt — 9 And—
And vainly dare the Lord of Hoſt.
But again Almighty Ire*
Shall o'erturn him wrapp'd in fire, — 10. And—
The ſerpent and his legions doom
Eternally to lakes that nought but ſulphur ſhall illume.
Hurrying from the God of day — 11. And—
The earth and impious foes of heaven fled away.

Lo! before the judgement ſeat
Mingled ſtand the ſmall and great, — 12. And—

* In imitation of "The zeal of the Lord of Hoſts ſhall perform this," ſo nobly heightened by the perſonification of *zeal*.

King, beggar, undiſtinguiſh'd, rich and poor,
The fate with anxious eyes await that ever ſhall endure.
He figur'd in the ſcroll of death,
Beholds a grinning fiend prepar'd to catch their breath;
13. And— Whilſt he the faithful good and wiſe,
Upliſted on young wings to ſcenes of pleaſure flies.
This eternal firm'd decree
Heard the deaf diſaſtrous ſea,
Sea and earth's dark putrid bed
Up deliver'd each his dead,
14. And— Roars the trump and fates compell,
Slain was Death and quench'd was hell,
Each received in Virtue bold
Joys in the page of life enroll'd.
The reſurrection this the firſt, the earneſt of reward
5. But— Intermediate prepar'd;
But others not enjoy their reſt,
Till twice five hundred years revolve, their manſions un-
Happy they and bleſs'd indeed [poſſeſs'd
6. Bleſſed—Who foremoſt to the realms of peace ſhall ſpeed;
Who, Glory's chieftains, ſhall begin
The triumph over Death and Sin,
15. And— Thoſe who lit Almighty Ire
Downwards plung'd in molten fire.
On columns, ſtarr'd their thrones appear'd
That majeſtic order rear'd,
4. And— To which who God's command obey'd,
In righteouſneſs ſurpaſs'd, by angels were convey'd
In tints celeſtial array'd;

With

With Chriſt a thouſand years to reign;
In peace, to know no more diſeaſe and pain;
Then wing'd angels to become and ſpeakleſs joys attain.

CHORUS.

With Chriſt a thouſand years to reign;
In peace, to know no more diſeaſe and pain;
Then wing'd angels to become and ſpeakleſs joys attain.

ODE XIX.

Chap. XXI.

HAIL, glorious morn! [adorn
That do'ſt with more reſplendency and brighter rays
The face of heaven refin'd; that earth
Glad'ſt with ſweeter melody and renovated birth:
The frail foundations of decay
Are done, are paſt, and fled away.

V. 1. And—

I, John, beheld a new Jerus'lem fair
Sailing thro' the fields of air;
Like a purple eaſtern bride;
On wings of winds I ſaw her ride:
The plated roofs and gilded ſpires
O'erſpread the day with golden fires,
And a ſtrong immortal voice
Bade my ſenſes all rejoice.

2. And—

3. And—

" Th'

" Th' Almighty's ſelf will be your God,
" With you take his own abode.
" No more mourning, no more ſorrow,
" Preſent ills and dreaded morrow,
" But wip'd be ev'ry tear,
" Be fled each ſad forebode, and ev'ry preying fear.
" All things, ſee, begin anew,
" Write, proclaim my dictates true.
" Alpha and Omega, I
6. And— " Create the earth anew and hang a fairer ſky.
" Write my words—For IT IS DONE—
" See the orbs and youthful ſun [run.
" Scatter richer pearls and o'er more brilliant verdures
" Each your wiſh ſecure enjoy,
" And bliſs flow without alloy.
" See down new mountains
7. He— " Laugh new fountains;
" Drink freely now, my ſons, of ſtreams that ne'er ſhall cloy."

Then one of thoſe cammanded erſt to pour
The *ſev'n left plagues*, of Hell t' exhauſt the ſtore,
9. And— Said, " Approach, and I will ſhow
" Her, myſtic, marry'd to the Lamb in ſplendour like the bow, [glow."
" See it down the arch of heaven with countleſs beauties

10. And— Then, in the ſpirit wrapp'd my ſoul,
I ſaw Jeruſalem deſcend and planets round me roll.
11. Having Fraught with glory gay it ſhone
Like the vivid jaſper ſtone,
Glorious, wond'rous, was its ſite,
12. And— Strong its walls of tow'ry height.

Twelve

Twelve gates maſſy it defend
And afar a luſtre ſend:
Front three the Eaſt
And on matin ſunbeams feaſt,
Face three the chilly North
Play with the flaſhy fires he bringeth forth,
Three baſking in the ſultry South
Flames ſcatter like a furnace-mouth,
Three rays receive of placid Weſt
And with the morn the prize conteſt.
Cubits twelve times thouſand twelve, the fencing wall was
Tall, majeſtic, glaſſy, ſtrong;
Each baſe of rock on high conſpicuous grav'd
With the Lamb's apoſtles twelve, and ſinful nations ſav'd.
Surpaſſing all compare
Its city form'd a mighty ſquare,
And full-glorious to behold
Seem'd entire of fretted gold;
Living, chryſtal gems between,
Ruddy, yellow, blue and green.
Th' immortal God of heaven, and Lamb therein did reign,
They its temple, they its fane:
Sun or moon there needed none
Where bright hoſts celeſtial ſhone.
Mountains of wealth glad nations here convey,
Here tributary kings their diadems diſplay,
And the wide portals, night unknown, emit eternal day.
Fled are pollution, malice, ſtrife,
Are gone, the city leave that opes the book of life.

13. On—
[long,
17. And—
16. And—
18. And—
19. And—
20. The—
22. And—
23. And—
24 And—
25. And—
27 Strife—

C H O R U S.

Fled are pollution, malice, ſtrife,
Are gone, the city leave that opes the book of life.

Chap. XXII.

O D E XX.

V. 1. And— I Saw the ſprings etherial pure
Of God's own rock that always ſhall endure:
Nouriſh'd by which the tree of life fair grew,
Around harmonious winds Elyſian blew,
2. In— Bruſh'd ev'ry balmy leaf and odorif'rous flew
Each circling moon, freſh bloſſoms ſprung,
And fruit delicious in thick cluſters hung,
Fruits that a cherub's countenance reveal
And ev'ry earth-born malady and ſad remembrance heal.

3. And— " Let ev'ry guilt and ev'ry curſe begone,
" Fly ſwift before the blaze of the Almighty throne
" The mourning ſigh and captive groan:
" With his own glory God ſhall ſhine,
4. And— " The Lamb the ſacred concert join
" And myriads of angelic bands in chorus blend divine.
6. And— " Mark th' eternal truths I ſpeak;
" E'en now new orbs th' horizon ſtreak
" That ſudden ſhall in light and boundleſs glory break:
7. Behold " Soon the bleſſed Saviour comes,
" Attune your harps and beautify your domes."

8. And— Such things I joyful ſaw and heard,
Then proſtrate fervent vows of gratitude preferr'd.
But th' informing angel ſaid, " Give praiſe alone to God,
" Who, ere the world was fram'd, thro' wilds of chaos rode."

Then

Then he ſaid " Seal not the book"
(And the anſwering heaven ſhook)
" For ſoon ſhall ruſh in loudeſt ſtorm the end, 10. And—
" Prepar'd are fiery hoſts to rend
" The crackling ſkies and red deſcend.
" Thus Jeſus warn'd: " *E'en now the lot is caſt,*
" *The day of bleſs'd repentance paſt.*
" *The wicked, wicked, now let be,*
" *To his place of mis'ry flee,* 11. He—
" *And the Righteous Righteous ſtill,*
" *'Till of joy he have his fill;*
" *Or a bleſs'd or hapleſs ſtate*
" *Everlaſting ſhall await;*
" *The gates of life and death are barr'd,* 12. And—
" *Borne on the winds I come, diſpenſing juſt reward.*
" *Alpha and Omega, HE* 13. I—
" *Whirl'd the ſpheres, now bids, the ſun's quench'd luſtre flee.*
" *Happy they and ſev'nfold bleſs'd*
" *Who of the key of life poſſeſs'd* 14. Bleſſed—
" *Enter in and find his reſt;*
" *Without is ev'ry miſcreant dire*
" *Condemn'd to kin tormenting fiends and ever-during fire!* 15. For—
" *God me ordain'd the morning-ſtar* 16. I—
" *That lit the radiant eaſt afar;*
" *I ſend my angel glad before*
" *To range my gueſts and deck the floor:*
" *Now prepared be the feaſt*
" *And ev'ry righteous ſoul from ſin and death releas'd:*
" *Hear, hear, of Him who ſent me, the decree;* 17. And—
" *Of everlaſting joy partake, from earth's dull fetters free.*

Let

18. For— " *Let none dare add unto my book of peace,*
" *Leſt on his head the plagues, recorded there, increaſe:*
19. And— " *And whoſoever ſhall preſume*
" *To take therefrom, him ne'er, ſhall glory full illume.*"

20. He— Theſe are the things which God inſpires
And the bleſſed Lamb requires.
21 The— O wait, ye good, peace cheriſh; till his grace
Shall lift you from terreſtrial woe, and in his boſom place.

CONCLUDING CHORUS.

THESE ARE THE THINGS WHICH GOD INSPIRES
AND THE BLESSED LAMB REQUIRES.
O WAIT, YE GOOD, PEACE CHERISH; TILL HIS GRACE
SHALL LIFT YOU FROM TERRESTRIAL WOE, AND IN
HIS BOSOM PLACE.

NOTES.

NOTES.

I Apprehend critics never to have been more abſurd, than in their ſtudied reſearches concerning St. John's *Revelations*; than in their endeavours to explain particulars, and meanings never meant, without any certain clew.

CHAP. I.

" Him which was and which is, and which is to come." What an elevated manner of expreſſing God's eternity! I know not whether *which*, by throwing the language a little out of ordinary grammar, does not heighten it and render it more poetical than would be *who*, reminding of *Our Father* which *art in Heaven*, not indeed in an exactly ſimilar predicament, as *who art* would be ſomewhat exceptionable, becauſe of one vowel's opening on another. The eighth and eleventh verſes of this chapter are ſpoken by God Almighty; and the latter part of the ſeventeenth, eighteenth, and nineteenth verſes by Jeſus Chriſt.

Chap. IV. v. 7.] The *Revelation* conſiſts generally of emblematical viſion. But from his enthuſiaſtic manner of relation St. John ſeems, ſometimes deſcribing real things and perſons, as in the beginning of this chapter, the throne of God and God himſelf, till " There were ſeven lamps burning before the throne, which are the ſeven ſpirits of God," makes it clear that it is all figurative. The obſervation of Gray, in the *Progreſs of Poetry*; that the ſubject and ſimile, are in Pindar often united; is applicable to St. John. Far be it from me to derogate from St. John's aſtoniſhing genius abounding with traits of divine inſpiration; to exhibit, which in ſuch ſtriking and ſtupendous colours, required an imagination hardly confined within a mortal cell, in which we ſee his over-whelmed ſoul ſtruggling when ſuch glorious images crowded on it, in which, perhaps, he, without much regard to regularity, repeatedly deſcribes the day of judgement in figurative epitomes: yet it muſt be confeſs'd that fanciſulneſs and numerical ſuperſtition are not ſeldom combined; as in this verſe, in which I have taken the liberty

of converting the calf to an ox; and his tranſitions are ſtill more ſudden than the Pſalmiſt's.

The ſolemn account in the fifth chapter, of the opening of the book, " written within and on the back ſide," *i. e.* the old and new Teſtament, repreſents the wonderful unparalleled power and goodneſs of our Saviour ſignified by the Lamb, in the redemption of the world.

The crackling of thunder when near, like the rending of paper, might furniſh the imagery of the fourteenth verſe of the ſixth.

In the firſt chapter, the author was ordered to relate the wonders he had ſeen: but in the eight he is commanded to keep ſecret the relations of the ſeven thunders.

Chap. IX. v. 2.] It may be obſerved that the grandeur of the ſcriptures often conſiſts entirely in the thought without any aſſiſtance of language, very different from the floridneſs by ſome aſcribed to modern Aſiatic poetry, by means of profuſions of epithets of which the ſcriptural writers are remarkably ſparing. St. John's deſcriptions, ſeemingly, of the laſt day, riſe one above the other, like Homer's battles, and neither well left room for a climax. As Homer left little ſcope to exceed the conflict of Diomede in the fifth Iliad, ſo John could hardly exceed his eight chapter, and it ſeems that the thirteenth verſe of that chapter ſhould have been earlier.

Propheſy, it has been obſerved, ſeems to have correſpondence to the events of different ſucceeding times: indeed we are ignorant what may be the day (the time) of judgement; which, for aught we know, may embrace the interval between the firſt and ſecond advent of Chriſt.

In the ninth chapter, the author has given play to his exuberant imagination, in the deſcription of the locuſts, the eleventh verſe of which reminds of the queen of the bees.

Chap. X. v. 2.] There is ſomething infinitely more grand in this deſcription of the angel, than of Neptune, in Homer. How wonderfully ſublime is the perſonification of the thunders! Indeed there is nothing beautiful or tremendous omitted in theſe Revelations.

It may be alledged that what follows on ſounding the ſeventh trumpet, chap. XI. is widely different from the denunciation in the laſt verſe of the eighth. But the woe is to be underſtood, to appertain to the wicked inhabitants of the earth; and from hence eſpecially might be underſtood, that the millenium or ſabbath of the world, that is the ſeven thouſandth era, will ſucceed the completion of ſix thouſand years.

In the twelfth chapter, the rebellion of Satan, his conteſt with the birth of Chriſt through Herod's perſecution, his ſeductions and enmity to mankind; our Saviour's aſcenſion, temptations, and perhaps Noah's flood; and in the following chapter, perhaps, Mahomet: ſeem all literally or figuratively combined, though oddly enough it muſt be confeſſed. But congruity, exact enumeration of circumſtances, and regard to ſucceſſion of events, are not to be expected in poetical effuſions, and ſtill leſs in the comprehenſiveneſs and infiniteneſs of thoſe of ſcriptural authors, and leaſt of all in John.

They

They perpetually conſider time from the creation, as only a point. Indeed all poets take a general liberty of uſing the paſt or preſent tenſe at pleaſure.

The Sixteenth chapter ſeems to point to the plagues of Egypt, poſſibly correſponding with the general final judgement; and I have lately been pleaſed to find that Dr. Lowth entertains the idea of ſuch prophetic duplicity. Alſo the angels of the waters and Naiads ſeem ſimilarly to have a correſpondence: and it may be juſt noticed in what high reverence elders are holden, ſo as to be joined throughout with the angels, ſpirits, ſaints, and the beaſts.

Chap. XVII.] John's genius was of ſo elevated a kind, that ridicule or humour entered not his mind; and therefore he did not guard his pen; which circumſtance may be compared to the ſtate of innocence of Adam and Eve, who were naked without ſhame, or the idea of it. The beginning of this chapter is metaphorical, inſtead of being veſted in the gauze of ſimily, which makes it appear ſtrange. But the ſcarlet whore, is a bold juſt emblem of a great city, as of Babylon. This obſervation is applicable to Shaftſbury's repreſentation of both the Old and New Teſtament as humorous and jocular; though it muſt be admitted that ſome parts, eſpecially, of the Old, are ſo: and ſtrange it would be, if there were not ſomething of every kind in ſo various a miſcellany; various certainly, nevertheleſs ſtamped throughout with traits of the ſame origin. The ſtyle of St. John is ſuperior to wit and point; yet the thirteenth verſe of the eighteenth chapter, concluding with an unexpected and ſtriking thought, would have ſhone in Juvenal, and indeed in Martial.

Chap. XIX. v. 3.] "And her ſmoke roſe up for ever and ever." How wonderfully ſublime! The ſeventh, eighth, and ninth verſes may be oppoſed to the dreary and ſtrange interpretation, given by ſome, to the words of our Saviour "In heaven they are neither married nor given in marriage," and to other parts of the Scripture; as if ſociety will ceaſe when it ſhall truly begin, for marriage is to be underſtood figuratively.

Chap. XX.] Might, from the ſeventh, eighth, and fourteenth verſes, be conſtrued into a ſuppoſition of a millenium, and afterwards a relapſe, previous to the kingdom of heaven; but though I have endeavoured to render it a little conſiſtent, by a new arrangement, I fear it will not be eaſily intelligible.

Chap. XXI.] No fewer than twelve ſorts of jewels are here enumerated. The twenty-ſecond verſe, though impracticable, contains a noble thought. In this chapter, St. John adopts the true ſpirit of a Jew; evincing withal, a truly deſcriptive poetical imagination of the beautiful caſt, blended with the ſublime. How do the papiſts, who take ſuch liberties in moulding the ſcriptures to their own imaginations, get rid of the ninth and nineteenth verſes of the twenty-ſecond chapter, &c.? "Mine angel" has perhaps a double meaning, and reſpects John the Baptiſt, and alſo a correſpondent angel to precede Chriſt's ſecond coming.

The eighth and eleventh verſes of the firſt chapter, being ſpoken by God; and the latter part of the ſeventeenth verſe, with the eighteenth and nineteenth by Jeſus Chriſt;

is,

is, I conceive on ſecond thoughts, doubtful. However, in the courſe of the *Revelation* God, and Jeſus Chriſt, ſignified by the Lamb, are often ſpoken of together, without the mention of the Holy Spirit: but, in the ſecond and third chapters, the Spirit is frequently mentioned in a manner, that may be interpreted into a perſon. as it is in the thirteenth verſe of the fourteenth chapter; ſo it is in the ſeventeenth of the twenty-ſecond, but it is there confounded with the Lamb. At the ſame time it may be obſerved, that the Revelation affords not grounds for the Athanaſian Creed, though, written as it is, as by a divine, it is, taken together fairly reconceiveable with the church. So that, though thinking perſons cannot eaſily acquieſce in ſome of her doctrines, becauſe degrading ſurely to God, conſequently noxious to religion, however ſublime in the opinion of vain man; we cannot, without preſumption, deny that there may be ſome truth in a notion of a celeſtial plurality of the God-head. But indeed the ſeven ſpirits deſcribed as ſurrounding the throne of God, are alſo ſuſceptible of the interpretation of perſons.

F I N I S.

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